Azure Government Secret Frequently Asked Questions

Background

We are committed to meeting the missions needs of the U.S Government across the spectrum of data classifications. Our current platform supports the mission needs of state and local government, Federal Civilian, the Department of Defense, the Justice Department, the Defense Industrial Base, and the intelligence community for unclassified workloads. Our platform also enables ISVs and other partners in support of these customers.

We are now planning to extend our capabilities to support classified missions starting with Secret-level data and workloads.

With Azure Government Secret, we will provide commercial-grade hyperscale cloud services with the highest availability, the deepest compliance, and the fastest innovation available to support the most critical of U.S Government missions.

Q: Azure Government Secret – what is Microsoft delivering to market?

Azure Government Secret will deliver multi-tenant cloud infrastructure and cloud capabilities to eligible U.S. Government agencies including Federal Civilian, Department of Defense, Justice Department, Defense Industrial Base, and the intelligence community. Our platform will also enable eligible ISVs and other partners in support of these customers working within Secret enclaves.

In launching Azure Government Secret, delivering both security and innovation is our priority.
- o Customers with secret requirements can expect to gain access to new technologies at scale that are already driving innovation in the commercial sector. Key examples include cognitive capabilities, artificial intelligence, and predictive analytics.
- o Most importantly, customers can count on Azure Government Secret to deliver mission-critical security features, including advanced analytics and intelligent detections to combat evolving threats.

Q: Where will the Azure Government Secret datacenters be located?

Azure Government Secret will offer cloud capabilities within the continental United States-located Microsoft datacenters.

Q: Who will Azure Government Secret be available to?

Azure Government Secret will be available to eligible U.S. Government agencies including Federal Civilian, Department of Defense, Justice Department, Defense Industrial Base, and the intelligence community. Azure Government Secret will also enable eligible ISVs and other partners in support of these customers working within Secret enclaves.

Q: What is the anticipated timeframe for Azure Government Secret availability?

Coming soon.

Q: Is there an agency or customer Microsoft is working with on this or is there a sponsor?

We will partner with any U.S Government entity with classified data requirements who can provide us an accreditation and classified network connection.

Q: What are the controls the U.S. Government requires Microsoft to have in place for Secret?

DoD Impact Level 6 (IL6) is what we plan to accredit to. For Secret, IL6 represents the most stringent level of required controls.

Q: Why is Microsoft doing this?

To best support U.S. Government mission needs we aim to provide the full spectrum of Azure capabilities to all levels of government data requirements.

Q: Where can I go for more information?

We have created an external email where interested customers and partners can submit questions. Please email the Azure Government Secret DL @ AzureGov_S_EXT@microsoft.com S/MIME signed emails are encouraged.

Q: Does Microsoft have any plans for Azure in support of Top Secret?

We are always working to meet the needs of our customers and we will continue to evaluate this area.

Q: Is there a plan for O365 for Secret?

We are always working to meet the needs of our customers and we will continue to evaluate this area.

Q: What about foreign governments. Is there a form of Azure Government Secret available to them or is Azure Government Secret only available to the U.S. Government and its partners?

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